I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

STPE By: Kyle H 7

Date: November 6, 2003

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

09/997,984

Confirmation No: 4247

NOV 20 2003 TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

Applicant Filed Ludwig Leipold et al. November 29, 2001

Art Unit

2858

Examiner

Walter Benson

Docket No.

WMP-SME396

Customer No.:

24131

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(C)(2)

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

British Patent Application GB 2 069 597 A (Fritz), dated August 26, 1981, and corresponding German Patent DE 30 03 892 C2, dated August 13, 1981.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (c) (2), consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is requested.

Enclosed is the fee in the amount of \$180.00.

Respectfully submitted,

For Applicants

Date: V

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Sheet 1 of 1 FORMERTO-1449 (SUBSTITUTE) Attorney Docket No.: Applic. No. WMP-SME396 09/997,984 U.S. DEPART OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **Applicant** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Ludwig Leipold et al. STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Filing Date (37 CFR 1.98(b)) Group Art Unit November 29, 2001 2858 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** SUB FILING INITIALS PATENT NO. DATE **PATENTEE** CLASS **CLASS** DATE Α C В С D Ε F G Н FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT SUB TRANSL. DOCUMENT NO. DATE COUNTRY CLASS CLASS YES | NO J 2 069 597 A 8/26/81 Great Britain Х Κ 30 03 892 C2 8/13/81 Germany Х L М Ν OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) ō P

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER